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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/875,814	06/05/2001	Ashvinkumar J. Sanghvi	MSI-689US	5999

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EXAMINER
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SIDDIQI, MOHAMMAD A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/875,814

Applicant(s)

ASHVINKUMAR J. SANGHVI

Examiner

Mohammad A. Siddiqi

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-29 are presented for examination.

### ***Response to Arguments***

In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 12/28/2004, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. New grounds of rejection are set forth below.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 1-12 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the language of the claim raises question as to whether the claim is directed merely to an abstract idea that is not tied to a technological art, environment or machine which would result in a practical application producing a concrete, useful, and tangible result to form the basis of statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lowe-Norris et al. (Windows 2000 Active Directory by Alistair G. Lowe-Norris, published by O'Reiely, 1<sup>st</sup> edition January 2000) (Lowe-Norris) .

6. As per claim 1, Lowe-Norris discloses a method comprising:

Identifying multiple policies to be combined together (group policies, chapter 9, page 1 of 30, windows 2000 Group Policies);

determining whether any conflicts exist between the multiple policies (Chapter 9, page 5 of 30, child has conflicting value);

adding non-conflicting policies to a merged policy set (Chapter 9, page 13 of 30, table 9-1, resultant set of policies); and

resolving conflicting policies by selecting a preferred policy (Chapter 9, page 11 of 30, fig 9-5, access control entries for GPO) and including the preferred policy in the merged policy set (Chapter 9, pages 11-12 of 30, preferred policies are selected).

7. As per claims 2 and 15, Lowe-Norris discloses the preferred policy represents a preferred range of values associated with at least one of the multiple policies (How GPOs stored in Windows 2000, Chapter 9, pages 1-2 of 30, Group-policy-container object, fig 9-1).

8. As per claim 3, Lowe-Norris discloses determining an allowed range of values associated with the multiple policies (How GPOs stored in Windows 2000, Chapter 9, pages 1-2 of 30, Group-policy-container object, fig 9-1).

9. As per claim 4, Lowe-Norris discloses the preferred policy is contained within an allowed range of values associated with the multiple policies (How GPOs stored in Windows 2000, Chapter 9, pages 1-2 of 30, Group-policy-container object, fig 9-1).

10. As per claim 5, Lowe-Norris discloses deleting policies that are outside an allowed range of values (Chapter 9, page 18 of 30, fig, 9-8), wherein the

allowed range of values is associated with the multiple policies (designing the delegation of GPO administration, Chapter 9, page 27 Of 30).

11. As per claim 6, Lowe-Norris discloses selecting a preferred policy includes: arranging conflicting policy templates in order from global policies to local policies (How GPOs stored in Windows 2000, Chapter 9, page 1 of 30, template-based policies);

determining an intersection of the conflicting policy templates (When policies apply, Chapter 9, pages 6-7 of 30); and

selecting the preferred policy template based on the intersection of the conflicting policy templates (When policies apply, Chapter 9, pages 6-7 of 30, and local group policy objects).

12. As per claim 7, Lowe-Norris discloses selecting a preferred policy includes:

Arranging conflicting policy templates in order from global policies to local policies (When policies apply, Chapter 9, pages 6-7 of 30, and local group policy objects);

determining an intersection of the conflicting policy templates (When policies apply, Chapter 9, pages 6-7 of 30, and local group policy objects);  
and

selecting the preferred policy template based on the policy template closest to the local policies and within the intersection of the conflicting policy templates (When policies apply, Chapter 9, pages 6-7 of 30, and local group policy objects).

13. As per claim 8, Lowe-Norris discloses the policies are event-handling policies (Chapter 9, page 14 of 30 and Chapter 9, page 29 of 30, event logging).

14. As per claim 9, Lowe-Norris discloses the policies define how a device is to be configured (computer configuration, Chapter 9, page 14 of 30).

15. As per claim 10, Lowe-Norris discloses the policies identify the types of events that are provided to each device (slow-link-detection, Chapter 9, page 14 of 30 and Chapter 9, page 29 of 30, event logging).

16. As per claim 11, Lowe-Norris discloses resolving conflicting policies includes comparing related policies individually (Chapter 9, pages 5-6 of 30).

17. As per claim 12, Lowe-Norris discloses wherein the method is implemented by a management module (Chapter 9, page 29 of 30, Windows Management Instrumentation or WBEM).

18. As per claim 13, Lowe-Norris discloses one or more computer-readable memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform (Chapter 9, page 1 of 30, How Windows 2000, GPOs works, computer).

19. As per claim 14, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 1 and 7, above.

20. As per claim 15, Lowe-Norris discloses the preferred policy represents a preferred range of values associated with at least one of the multiple policies (How GPOs stored in Windows 2000, Chapter 9, pages 1-2 of 30, Group-policy-container object, fig 9-1).

21. As per claim 16, Lowe-Norris discloses deleting policies that are outside the preferred range of values (Chapter 9, page 18 of 30, fig, 9-8 and Chapter 9, page 27 of 30, designing the delegation of GPO administration).



22. As per claim 17, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 14 and 8 above.

23. As per claims 18, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 14 and 9 above.

24. As per claim 19, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 14 and 13 above.

25. As per claim 20, Lowe-Norris discloses an apparatus comprising:  
a storage device configured to store a merged policy set (How GPOs Stored in Windows 2000, Chapter 9, page 1 of 30); and  
a management module coupled to the storage device and configured to identify multiple policies to be merged into the merged policy set (Chapter 9, page 13 of 30, table 9-1, resultant set of policies), wherein the management module (Chapter 9, page 29 of 30, Windows Management Instrumentation or WBEM) adds non-conflicting policies to the merged policy set and resolves conflicts (Chapter 9, page 11 of 30, fig 9-5, access control entries for GPO) among conflicting policies (Chapter 9, page 13 of 30, table 9-1, resultant set of policies).

26. As per claim 21, Lowe-Norris discloses resolving conflicts among conflicting policies includes selecting a preferred policy and including the preferred policy in the merged policy set (Chapter 9, pages 11-12 of 30, preferred policies are selected).

27. As per claim 22, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 20 and 6 above.

28. As per claim 23, Lowe-Norris discloses the management module is part of an enterprise computing system (Chapter 9, page 29 of 30, Windows Management Instrumentation or WBEM).

29. As per claim 24, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 20, 8, 10, and 13, above.

30. As per claim 25, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 20 and 7 above.

31. As per claim 26, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 20 and 10 above.

32. As per claims 27-29, claims are rejected for the same reasons as claims 1-10, above.

***Conclusion***

33. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Troubleshooting Group Policy in Windows 2000, Published by Microsoft Corporation, published on 2/2001.

U.S. 2002/0016840 teaches applying policy in policy based network.

U.S. Patent 6,826,698 teaches security policies.

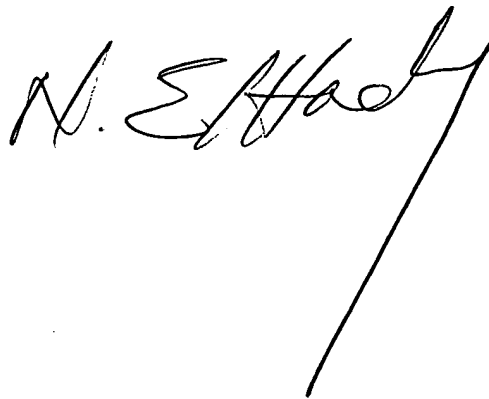
U.S. Patent 6,865,549 teaches policy-based management system

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad A. Siddiqi whose telephone number is (571) 272-3976. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MAS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. E. Hady", followed by a long diagonal slash mark.